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FLOOR DEBATE

March 21, 2002 LB 898, 1085

LB 898 be adopted? All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. We are voting on the adoption of committee amendments. Have you all voted who care to? Record, please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 31 ayes, 11 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of committee amendments.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The committee amendments are adopted.

CLERK: I have nothing further pending on the bill, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: We're back to discussion of the bill itself. Open for discussion on LB 898. There are no lights on. Senator Kristensen, did you wish to... Senator Byars, I'm sorry. There was a light on. I'm sorry, Senator Byars.

SENATOR BYARS: Thank you, Mr. President. I am going to vote to advance LB 898. I think it is one of those issues, like it or not, that we need to share with our local subdivisions. And I'm still greatly troubled by the fact that I have at least one school district that is going to be excluded, even if we pass LB 1085. They're in trouble now; they're cutting teachers; they're cutting curriculum. They're going to have to cut it further if we pass this bill. I feel, however, that I'm going to give it a positive vote on General File. I will look at what happens with LB 1085 and whether that might be adjusted and then will reserve my vote for LB 898 depending on what happens with LB 1085 on General File. But I felt it necessary because of the fact that I do have one school district in trouble. They're going to continue to be in trouble. I think they need every bit of support that we can give them. And it's my explanation of vote, Mr. President. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Byars. Seeing no further lights on, Senator Kristensen, you're recognized to close on LB 898.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the Legislature. I think we all appreciate the fact that these aren't very easy things to do. I appreciate those who will vote